

Report to: Resources and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 10 January 2008
Author: City Solicitor
Title: Information and Overview Report

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide information about relevant issues affecting the Committee's remit to aid Members to manage their work programmes.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Committee is requested to consider the topics highlighted in the report and either:

- Note the information
- Request a briefing note to provide further details
- Add the item to the Committee's Work Programme

3. Contact Officer:

Kate Brown, Scrutiny Support Officer

Tel: 0161 234 3376

k.brown3@manchester.gov.uk

4. Suggestions for the Work Programme

No suggestions have been received this month. A copy of the latest Work Programme is attached for information.

5. Forward Planning

Relevant extracts from the Executive Forward Plan are attached to this report.

6. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

Date	Item	Recommendation	Action	Contact Officer
	RG/07/44 State of the City Report	<p>To request the officers to present quarterly reports similar to the reports submitted to the Manchester Partnership.</p> <p>To recommend to the Director of Children's Services that representations are made to the Department of Education and Skills urging that a more representational basis for data collection is needed in relation to pupil attainment that presents a truer and more complete picture of the performance of all Manchester children, including those educated in the independent sector and those attending schools outside the district.</p>	<p>Regular performance information will be reporting to the Committee on a quarterly basis as requested.</p> <p>Noted</p>	Kate Brown
	RG/07/45 Section 106 Agreements	<p>To request that the completed ward breakdown of Section 106 agreements be made available to local councilors through the Ward Co-ordination process.</p>	<p>A revised copy of the appendix setting out financial information requested by the Committee has been circulated to Members.</p> <p>Agreed- this will be actioned in the next couple of months.</p>	Peter Babb
	RG/07/30 District Public Service Boards	<p>That in order to ensure the inclusion of democratically elected councillors in the process -</p> <p>a) at least one elected</p>	<p>The response of the Executive to this recommendation will be reported to the Committee at its January meeting</p>	Kate Brown

		<p>member to be a member of the District Public Service Board.</p> <p>b) to provide proper accountability to ward coordination, a member of the District Public Service Board to attend each ward coordination group.</p> <p>2. The amendment of paragraph 4.1(b) of the Terms of Reference for District Public Service Boards, to read 'to deliver the district priorities of the Community Strategy and the relevant Strategic Regeneration Framework'.</p> <p>3. That agenda and papers for each meeting of the District Public Service Boards are issued to the relevant ward councillors 7 days in advance of each meeting, with the minutes being circulated with the next agenda.</p>	<p>(information to follow)</p> <p>Actioned</p> <p>Agreed</p>	
	<p>RG/07/21</p> <p>Ward Coordination Plan – review</p>	<p>To inform the Executive of the concerns of this Committee in relation to the proposal of rejecting the creation of full-time Ward Co-ordinator posts, and request them to consider, when the budget is set for 2008/09, an adjustment to departmental budgets to enable the appointment of permanent full time Ward Co-ordinator posts in order to promote more effective neighbourhood working.</p>	<p>The response of the Executive to this recommendation will be reported to the Committee at its January meeting (information to follow)</p>	<p>Steve Mycio</p>

7. Items for Information Only

Exemptions from Call In

Part 4 of the Council's Constitution authorises Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees to exempt a key decision from Call In when it is deemed to be of sufficient urgency that the delay likely to be caused by the Call In would seriously prejudice the legal or financial position of the Council or the interests of the residents of Manchester.

The Chair has requested that the City Treasurer report exemption requests to the full Committee on a regular basis:

Council Tax Base for Tax Setting Purposes 2008/9

The City Treasurer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources, is delegated to determine the tax base for tax setting purposes for each financial year. In accordance with Regulations, the calculation has to be based on data available at 30 November 2007 and must be made between 1 December 2007 and 31 January 2008.

The City Council has to notify precepting authorities of the calculation for 2008/9 by 31 January 2008, in the absence of which the precepting authorities take on the responsibility.

Work is ongoing at the present time to finalise the calculation in accordance with the methodology as specified in Regulations. An early draft will be available by the time the Scrutiny Committee meets on 10 January. The Council Tax base for tax setting purposes was 115,368 for 2007/8. If as anticipated it will be in the region of 117,675 for 2008/9 (an increase of 2%).

Leasing of Multi Functional Device

A Key Decision was taken earlier in the year to accept the tender from Xerox Ltd for the replacement of Multi Functional Devices across the Council and to use external leasing facilities to finance the deal to achieve additional savings of approximately £350k over the 5 year contract period.

As a result a separate tender exercise is underway to award a contract for the leasing arrangements for this equipment and other lease items required by the Council. The likely value of the items to be leased is £3.5m.

The tender returns are due on the 2nd January 2008 and it is anticipated that due to the nature of the bids the assessment will take 2/3 weeks .

The City Treasurer is seeking permission to exempt from call in the key decision relating to the award of the leasing contract to enable the contract to be in place in sufficient time to draw down the funding during this financial year .

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

<u>Decision Reference</u>	<u>Subject Area for Decision</u>	<u>Anticipated date of decision</u>	<u>Decision Taker (Executive or Chief Officer)</u>
	Capital Expenditure Approvals		
	Daisy Works Refurbishment (inc lift renewals)	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Corporate Disability Discrimination Act Works	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Beswick Housing Renewal	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Corporate Asset Management	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Spend and Save Schemes	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Surestart Children's Centre Programme	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Building Schools for the Future	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	NDS Devolved Capital 2007/08	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Housing Market Renewal	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Heaton Park Regeneration	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Fire Safety	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Primary School Re-building Programme 2007/08 to 2009/10	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Hattersley Stock Transfer – demolition and replacement of timber-framed properties	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Band on the Wall	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Investment in Manchester Central	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Civica IT Project – formerly Comino (Housing)	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Wythenshawe Town Centre	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Maine Road remediation	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Northwards Housing programme of works accelerated from 2008/09 to take up slippage in 2007/08	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	New East Manchester Academy: Land Assembly	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
	Any recent additions to the Capital Budget that may require Capital Expenditure Approval Key Decision	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer

		Revenue Budget		
		Allocations from Central Contingency	Dec 07 – April 08	Executive
		Requests for Funding from the Development Fund	Dec 07 – April 08	Executive
		Allocations from the Service Improvement Fund	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive/ City Treasurer
		Council Tax 2008/09		
		Setting the Council Tax Base for 2008/09	January 2008	City Treasurer
		Setting the Revenue/Capital Budgets for 2008/09, the Council's borrowing/investment strategies and the level of Council Tax for 2008/09	March 2008	Council
		Disposal of Land		
		Property 68-70 Newton Street, Manchester	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Land at Wastdale Road, Wythenshawe	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Land at Bury New Road, Cheetham	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Ossington Court	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Land at Altrincham Road, Baguley	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		K2, Ashton Old Road/Pottery Lane, West Gorton	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Land at Dean Lane, Newton Heath	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Land at Wayland Road, Gorton	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Five sites in Moston/Harpurhey	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Three Manchester Care homes – Newall View, Templemead and the Coppice	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Grey Mare Lane/Raglan Close/Albert St., Beswick	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Parrs Wood Lane/Kingsway, Didsbury	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Pottery Lane/Redgate Lane, Longsight	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Former Sharp Office and Warehouse, Oldham Road, Newton Heath	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive

		Disposal of an interest in land		
		Proposed disposal of land at Water Street/Regent Road to Towergate Developments	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Manchester Industrial Estate	Dec 07 – April 08	Chief Executive
		Tender Acceptance		
		To finance the procurement of desktop printers, photocopiers, combined photocopier/printer/fax machines, and large-scale printers to the City Council	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Building materials	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Waste and Recycling Project	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		ICT equipment, software and maintenance	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Banking Services	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Purchase Card Contract	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Hire of excavators	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Supply and delivery of flags and kerbs	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Highway maintenance – sub contract	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		SME post employment support	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer
		Office Furniture	Dec 07 – April 08	City Treasurer